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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Frederick M. Ausubel et al. Art Unit: Not yet assigned
Serial No.: Not yet assigned Examiner: Not yet assigned
Filed: October 10, 2001 Customer No.: 21559
Title: VIRULENCE-ASSOCIATED NUCLEIC ACID SEQUENCES AND
USES THEREOF
BOX PATENT APPLICATION
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, kindly consider the following amendments and remarks.

In the Claims:

Cancel claims 2-43, without prejudice, and add new claims 44-52.

44. A substantially pure polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence that is substantially identical to the amino acid sequence of a polypeptide encoded by SEQ ID NO: 92 (ORF11738).

45. The polypeptide of claim 44, comprising an amino acid sequence that is